

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 182103

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ORIGIN EA-07

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APPROVED BY EA/PRCM:TSBROOKS

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R 131826Z SEP 73

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

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EXCON

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, CH, FR

SUBJECT: SALES TO CHINESE

FOLLOWING SENT SECSTATE WASHDC FROM PARIS 12 AUG 73:

QUOTE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE PARIS 24005

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ESTC, CH, FR

EXCON

1. SERCEL REPRESENTATIVE CALLED ON EDO TO DISCUSS PENDING SALES TO CHINESE WHO INTERESTED IN WIDE RANGE OF SOPHISTICATED EQUIPMENT FOR GEOPHYSICAL AND SIESMIC SURVEYS AND OIL EXPLORATION. THESE NEGOTIATIONS IN EARLY STAGE AND SERCEL, BECAUSE OF PAST EXCON PROBLEMS AND FACT SOME SERCEL EQUIPMENT CONTAINS US COMPONENTS, MERELY WANTED ALERT USG TO THESE DISCUSSIONS.

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WM CHINESE HAVE EXPRESSED STRONG INTEREST IN IMMEDIATE ACQUISITION OF FULLY EQUIPPED SIESMIC SURVEY SHIP. SERCEL

PARENT COMPANY, COMPAGNIA GENERALE DE GEOPHYSIC (CGG) HAS SEISMIC SURVEY SHIP LADY ISABELLE WHICH CURRENTLY OPERATING OFF ATLANTIC COAST OF CANADA. THEY WILLING SELL THIS SHIP AND CHINESE APPARENTLY WILLING TO BUY. CRUCIAL INSTRUMENTATION ON LADY ISABELLE INCLUDES AN ITT SATELLITE RECEIVER LINKED TO A DIGITAL EQUIPMENT CORP. PDP8 COMPUTER AND A MARQUARDT SONAR-DOPPLER SYSTEM. IF THIS EQUIPMENT CAN BE LICENSED FOR SALE TO CHINESE, CGG HOPES TO SIGN CONTRACT IN NEAR FUTURE. IF NOT, THEY WISH TERMINATE NEGOTIATIONS ASAP.

3. HAVE PROMISED CGG ADVISORY OPINION WITHIN 10 DAYS, I.E. COB SEPTEMBER 21. REQUEST OEC OPINION BY THAT DATE INDICATING PROBABILITY, POSSIBILITY OR IMPOSSIBILITY GRANTING LICENSE FOR THIS EQUIPMENT.

DECONTROL JUNE 1974. STONE UNQUOTE RUSH

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